

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A circuit breaker includes a case, separable contacts, an operating mechanism having an open position, a snap closed position, a closed position, an operating handle for moving the operating mechanism between the open and closed positions, a movable contact arm carrying a movable contact, a link having a first end pivotally mounted with respect to the case, a second end and a projection, and a linkage. A first end of the linkage is pivotally mounted to the link second end. A second end of the linkage is pivotally mounted to the movable contact arm. A flexible cantilever lever is fixed within the case, engages the link projection and holds the link in the open position of the operating mechanism. The flexible cantilever lever flexes and releases the link projection and releases the link as the operating handle moves the operating mechanism from the open position to the snap closed position.